

Appln. No. 10/817,301  
Amdt. Dated April 21, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of March 8, 2005

### **REMARKS**

In the Office Action dated March 8, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 2, 4, 10, 15, 18, 20, 21, 25, and 34-36 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph for being indefinite, rejected claims 1-4, 6, 7, 18, 24-26, 36 and 37 under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Brooks (US Patent No. 955,114), rejected claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 24-26, 36 and 37 under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Goodrich (US Patent 365.916), and rejected claims 5, 8 and 27 as rejected under 35 USC 103 as obvious over Goodrich. The Examiner also indicated that claims 9, 10-14 15-23, 28-35 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

In response thereto, the Applicants have amended claims 1, 2, 4, 10, 15, 18, 20, 21, 24, 25, 34, 35 and 36 and cancelled claims 9 and 28. Claims 1-8, 10-27 and 29-37 remain at issue.

### **The 112 Second Paragraph Rejections**

The Applicants have amended claims 2, 4, 15, 20, 21, 25, and 34-36 to use proper Markush terminology. Claims 10 and 25 have been amended to replace VELCRO with hook and loop fasteners. The above listed claims are no longer indefinite.

### **The Art Rejections**

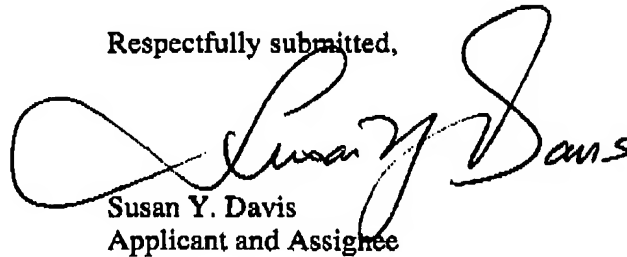
Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of now cancelled claims 6 and 9, which the Examiner indicated where allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 24 has been amended to include the subject matter of now cancelled claim 28, which the Examiner indicated where allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 1 and 24 are therefore allowable. Although patentable in their own right, claims 2-8 and 10-23 and 25-27 and 29-37 are allowable based on their dependency on claims 1 and 24 respectively.

Applicants believe that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a

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telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,



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